

# Pray Anson

Anson Baptist Association

April 1 – 30, 2022



Real prayer is sharing our hearts with God. Real prayer is listening to God and seeking His will about those people and things that we care the most about. Prayer is unlocking the holy power of God to work its will and might in this world. There are thousands of lost people right here in our own Anson County that need God's power, help and salvation! There are hundreds who have been saved, but have fallen away from God and are not attending anyone's church! There are many who are struggling with health, mental, financial and family issues. The people of Anson County need prayer! Even the Christians!!

Paul had a deep burden for the salvation of his own Jewish people. He wrote in Romans 10:1, "*Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved*" (see also 9:1-3). Paul prayed for the salvation of his Jewish countrymen. Do you have a deep burden for the salvation of your own people? If yes, then pray!

Paul wrote to Timothy, "*Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men*" (1 Tim. 2:1). God wants us to pray for others. It is God's will that we pray for others, especially for their salvation (1 Tim. 2:4). With that in mind, I am inviting you to join with our other ABA churches in praying for Anson County during the month of April. We have produced a prayer guide as a resource to help our churches and their members as they pray. Please take the opportunity to pray for our county and the lost during your regular services in April? Do you have someone in your church, or a Christian friend, that serves in an important leadership role in our county? Perhaps you could invite them to pray for our county during a worship service. Another way might be to have a special emphasis and prayer each Sunday in April, perhaps, praying for our first responders, praying for our schools, praying for our government leaders, praying for our churches, or praying for the lost. These are just ideas. Be creative and pray!

Another creative way to pray for our county is to do a prayer walk or a prayer ride through your neighborhood pausing to pray over the homes and people that the Lord shows you. Divide up your church community have groups within your church to pray for each section of your church field. This will help you to cover more of your friends and neighbors in prayer. Many churches who have taken part in this type of prayer emphasis have discovered people that they didn't know lived in their communities and many have also found a renewed heart and burden to reach the many houses/families that do not attend anyone's church. We have also developed a resource to help you plan and prepare for your prayer walk or ride too. These Pray Anson resources are available from our office or on our website at: [www.ansonbaptist.org](http://www.ansonbaptist.org)

While praying for our county in April is a great ministry all by itself, it is also great preparation for the missions, ministry, and evangelism projects that many of our churches will be engaged in during Love Anson Day on April 30<sup>th</sup>!

Your Partner in Prayer,

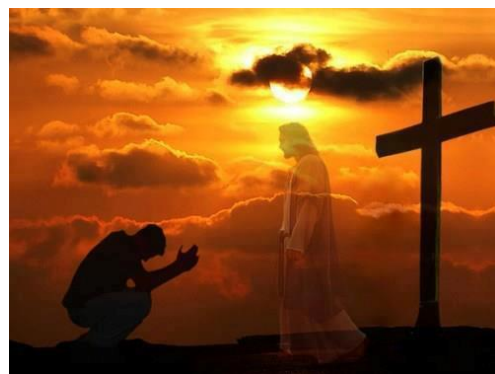
**David**

Rev. David Ross, AMS



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We love our home! We love beautiful Anson County! We love the people that live and work here! And we are called of God to pray for our friends, neighbors and co-workers! Will you join us in praying for the spiritual and physical needs of this county and its people that we love so much? These are tough days and the people of Anson County need God’s blessings and our prayers more than ever! The Bible says, **“I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men” (1 Timothy 2:1).**

It is estimated that over half of the population of our county of 22,055 people are not a member of anyone’s church and therefore, most likely, lost and headed to hell because of their unwillingness to trust and accept the salvation that Christ offers through His death and resurrection.


That should break our hearts! But what can we do? **Pray!** We should pray with the confidence that God does not want any one of them to go to hell! The Bible says, **“The Lord ... is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance” (2 Peter 3:9).** God in His love sent Jesus to be the Savior of the world! Let us be faithful to pray for the salvation of those that we love and who live with us Anson County! The guide below gives you some people and needs that you can pray for each day. Let’s cover our county in the month of April in prayer!

**Thank you for praying for the physical and spiritual needs of our friends and neighbors in Anson County!**

*[P]raying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints.... (Ephesians 6:18)*

<p><b>1 Ansonville Baptist Church</b>            Pastor: Rev. Jeff Glenn            Lost family members            Town of Ansonville            ACC, Jarvis Woodburn (chair)            Lilesville Fire Dept.</p>	<p><b>2 Brown Creek B. Church</b>            Pastor: Rev. Johnny Williams            Lost extended family            Town of Lilesville            ACC Robert Mims (Vchair)            Peachland Fire Dept.</p>		<p><b>Abbreviations</b>            (AC) Anson County            (ABA) Anson Baptist Association            (ACC) Anson County Commissioners</p>
<p><b>3 Calvary Baptist Church</b>            Pastor: Rev. Barry Gerald            Lost friends            Town of Peachland            ACC, Jim Sims            Search for new County Manager</p>	<p><b>4 Cathedral Bapt. Church</b>            Pastor: Rev. Randy Swaringen            Lost neighbors            Town of Polkton            ACC, JD Bricken            Interim County Manager: Phil Ponder</p>		<p><b>5 Cedar Grove Bapt. Church</b>            Pastor: Rev. Mark Swaringen            Lost co-workers            Town of McFarlan            ACC Vancine Sturdivant            Rodney Diggs, Emergency Management</p>
<p><b>7 Deep Springs B. Church</b>            Pastor: Rev. Henry Haney            Lost among the 904 Hispanic population            Town of Wadesboro            ACC, Harold C. Smith</p>	<p><b>8 Faith Baptist Church</b>            Pastor: Rev. Rick Eason            29% who never attend church            Church Leaders            Ansonville Fire Dept.            County &amp; Town Police forces</p>	<p><b>9 Fall Branch Bapt. Church</b>            Pastor: Rev. Arnold Jackson            25% who seldom attend church            Anson Baptist Association            Gullidge Fire Dept.            ACC Clerk, Denise Cannon</p>	<p><b>10 Freedom Bapt. Church</b>            Pastor: Rev. Bill High            Those who are “backslidden”            ABA, Rev. David Ross, AMS            Lanesboro, Fire Dept.            ACC, Harold C. Smith</p>

*[If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land” (2 Chronicles 7:14).*

<p><b>11 Gum Springs B. Church</b>          Pastor: Rev. Tom Walden          Anson Early College          ABA, Mrs. Kim Glenn          Wadesboro Fire Dept.</p>	<p><b>12 Lilesville Bapt. Church</b>          Pastor: Rev. Teddy Lawson          Anson High School          ABA, Mark Perko          Racial unrest</p>	<p><b>13 Mineral Springs B. C.</b>          Pastor: Rev. Marty Quick          Anson Middle School          ABA, Randy Storz          School teachers</p>	<p><b>14 Morven Bapt. Church</b>          Pastor: Rev. Tommy Threatt          Ansonville Elementary School          ABA, James Parks          Atrium Health Hospt. Anson</p>
<p><b>15 Mount Beulah B. C.</b>          Pastor: Rev. Randy Storz          Lilesville Elementary          ABA, Jennifer Tarlton          Meadowview Terrace of          Wadesboro</p>	<p><b>16 Mount Carmel B. C.</b>          Pastor: Rev. Tim Helms          Morven Elementary          ABA, Lynn Whitlock          Anson Health &amp; Rehabilitation          Drug &amp; Alcohol Abuse</p>	<p><b>17 Mount Zion B. Church</b>          Pastor: Rev. James Hodges          Peachland-Polkton Elementary          ABA, Fran Thomas          Lillie Bennett Nursing Center          Those with mental health          issues</p>	

*“Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved.” (Romans 10:1)*

<p><b>18 New Home B. Church</b>          Pastor: Rev. Scott Baucom          Wadesboro Primary School          ABA, Jerome Cash          Ambassador Rehabilitation          and Healthcare Center</p>	<p><b>19 North Wadesboro B. C.</b>          Pastor: Rev. Donnie Helms          Wadesboro Elementary S.          ABA, Ann Thomas          ASB, Carol Gibson- Chair          Gangs &amp; Violence</p>	<p><b>20 Oakdale Baptist Church</b>          Pastor: Rev. Tracy Hickson          School Superintendent:          Dr. E. McLean          ABA, Churches w/o Pastors          ASB, Bobbie Little Vice Chair</p>	<p><b>21 Peachland Bapt. Church</b>          Pastor: Rev. Jerome Cash          ABA, Bob Wells          ASB, Marilynn Bennet          Families living in poverty          Single Parent Families</p>
<p><b>22 Pleasant Grove B. C.</b>          Rev. Kevin Ricketts (supply)          County Employees          ABA, Henry Haney          ASB, Lisa Davis</p>	<p><b>23 Polkton Baptist Church</b>          Pastor: Rev. John Greene          School Social Workers          ABA, Nancy Gullledge          ASB, George Truman</p>	<p><b>24 Red Hill Baptist Church</b>          Pastor: Rev. Rodney Clements          Other School Staff          ABA, Bob Wells          ASB, Bobby Little</p>	<p><b>Abbreviations</b>          (ASB) Anson County          School Board          (SS) Anson County          Social Services          (ABA) Anson          Baptist Association</p>

*“Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.” (1 John 5:14-15)*

<p><b>25 Rocky Mount Baptist C.</b>          Pastor: Rev. Billy Hill          Anson County Domestic          Violence Coalition          ASB, Gay Lookabill</p>	<p><b>26 Rocky River B. Church</b>          Pastor: Rev. Dennis Stegall          Anson Crisis Ministry          ASB, Frank Liles          Social Services (SS)</p>	<p><b>27 Southside Baptist C.</b>          Pastor: Rev. Cliff McKnight          Burnsville Learning Center          ASB, Mike Turner          SS, Lula Jackson, Dir</p>	<p><b>28 Victory Bapt. Church</b>          Pastor: Rev. Frank Mims          Feed My Lambs Ministry          ASB, Beulah Pratt          SS, Kathy Welch</p>
<p><b>29 Wadesboro First B. C.</b>          Rev. Dr. Harry Workman (I)          Hope Pregnancy Center          County Unemployment          County Crime</p>	<p><b>30 Pray for LOVE          ANSON DAY!</b>          Samaritan’s Inn Homeless          Shelter, Rev. M. Chambers          AC Health Department</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Love          Anson Day</b></p> 	

# Pray Anson Prayer Guide

April 2022

*“Again I say to you that if two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them.” (Matthew 18:19-20)*



This prayer guide is designed to be used each week during the month of April as an aid in praying for our county. Please use it in any way that will help you to pray for the spiritual and physical needs of our county. Share a copy with a friend! Additional copies can be found on the Anson Association Website: [www.ansonbaptist.org](http://www.ansonbaptist.org).

## **Week 1:**

**Lost and Unchurched.** *“Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved.” saved. (Romans 10:1)*

According to a recent Gallup Poll, 53% of Americans are not a member of anyone’s church. While the issue of salvation is much larger than church membership, let’s use that as an indicator to give us a glimpse into the spiritual need and lostness of the residents of our county. The 2020 census estimates the population of Anson County to be 22,055. 53% of that number would be 11,689. Assuming that those who are not a member of a church are not Christians, then over half of our population, 11,689 are lost and headed to hell because of their lack of faith in Jesus as their Savior and Lord.

Who are these people? They are our families, friends, neighbors and co-workers. We grew up and went to school with them. We know many of them personally by name and care very deeply for them. Will you spend time this week praying for their salvation? Will you pray for those who have wondered from the faith to come back to Jesus? Will you ask God to help you to have the courage to invite them to church, to share with them how and why you became a Christian. Will you share the plan of salvation with them using the Bible, a tract or a web-based resource?

There are an estimated 65 – 80 churches in Anson County. Statistics tell us that 9 out of 10 churches in America are plateaued or declining. Will you pray for the churches in our county to preach the Bible, to proclaim the good news of the gospel, to love the lost more than they love themselves and to die to their preferences so that they might better reach the lost who are all around them?

## **Week 2:**

**A. Schools.** *[P]rayer always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints— (Ephesians 6:18)*

- Pray for our schools & their principals: Ansonville Elementary, Michael Vetter; Lilesville Elementary, Becky Flake; Morven Elementary, Dionnya Pratt; Peachland-Polkton Elementary; Travis Steagall; Wadesboro Elementary, Daniel Burrows; Wadesboro Primary, Arthur Jackson; Anson Middle School, Darrell Potts; Anson Early College, Carri Decker; Anson High, Chris Stinson
- Pray for our teachers and staff
- Pray for our students
- Pray for our leaders in the central office. Superintendent: Howard McLean
- School Board: (Chairperson) Carol Ann Gibson, Mike Turner, Beulah Pratt, Frank Liles, Bobbie Little, Lisa Davis, George Truman, Marilynn Bennett and Gay Lookabill
- South Piedmont Community College staff and students

**B. First responders.** *“...[T]hrough love serve one another.” (Galatians 5:13)*

- Anson County Sheriff & Deputies
- Town police
- Fire Departments

- Rescue Squads
- Anson County Emergency Management

### **Week 3:**

**A. County Leaders.** “... *I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. (1 Timothy 2:1-2).*

- Anson County Board of Directors: Jarvis T. Woodburn (chairman), Dr. Jim Sims, JD Bricken, Vancine Sturdivant, Robert Mims (vice Chairman), Lawrence Gatewood, Harold C. Smith.
- County Department leaders and workers
- Town leaders and workers

**B. Business & Jobs.** “*But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.*” (Matthew 6:33)

These are trying time for most people, and many businesses are struggling too. Covid and soaring gas prices have taken a toll on our local businesses too. There are an estimated 388 businesses in our county with a pay role of some 165 million dollars.

- Pray for our business owners, small and large.
- Pray for a stable economy and business environment so that businesses and their employees can prosper.
- Pray for wisdom for our county leaders to be able to attract more businesses and jobs to our county.
- Pray for the salvation of business leaders and their workers
- Pray that businesses will take good care of their employees.

### **Week 3:**

**A. Crime.** “*But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you. (Matt 5:44)*

According to crimegrade.org, “The rate of crime in Anson County is 54.76 per 1,000 residents during a standard year.” “Anson County is in the 16th percentile for safety, meaning 84% of counties are safer and 16% of counties are more dangerous.”

- Pray for the souls of those who commit crimes
- Pray that those who are addicted to drugs or alcohol would be saved and set free from their addictions.
- Pray that we can find ways to redeem those who are guilty of crime for Christ.
- Pray for the victims of crime

**B. Social needs.** *But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the LORD on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare. (Jeremiah 29:7)*

The further our nation moves away from God, the greater the social needs grow among us. Rebellion and disobedience to God brings more sin and suffering.

- Poverty. The 2020 census found that 21.4% of Anson County lives in poverty. That means that 1 out of 5 people in our county live in poverty. Pray for God’s provision for the poor and for them to receive the right kind of help that will lift them out of poverty.
- Pray about the needs of: mental health, broken families, divorce, domestic violence, single parent families, affordable housing, drug abuse, human trafficking
- Pray for the Christian service organizations that minister to the needy in our county: Anson Crisis, Feed My Lambs, Burnsville Learning Center, Anson County Domestic Violence Coalition
- Pray for secular service organizations: Anson County Social Services, Anson County Health Department, Sandhill’s Community Action Program

**C. Pray for Love Anson, April 30<sup>th</sup>!**





# Prayer Walking Your Community

Jesus traveled from town to town engaged in teaching the Word of God and ministering compassionately to those who had needs (Mark 9:35-36). The Bible commands us to pray for all people. “Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men” (1 Tim. 2:1).

Prayer walking is one way to follow the example of Jesus and the commands of scripture. It is walking through your community with your eyes wide open to see how God would lead you to pray for your neighbors. Real prayer is not praying for what you want for your neighbors, but God’s perfect and compassionate will for them. Praying while walking through the neighborhood is praying for God’s blessings and will for each house and family. It is seeking God’s provision for their spiritual and physical needs.

As you walk, you may see a neighbor’s house whom you know is going through a hard time, and so you pray for their need. Another neighbor may be struggling with a rebellious teen. You might see another house and wonder who lives there. You might see children’s toys in the yard and feel led to pray for the salvation of the children or for strength and wisdom for the parents as they cope with the normal stresses of working and raising a family in today’s society. Prayer walking is allowing the Holy Spirit to guide your prayers as you see different homes, people, businesses or needs. It is lifting up your neighbors to Christ and asking Him to work in their families and lives for His glory. Prayer walking is simply praying for your neighbors.

## Preparing to Prayer Walk.

- Are the houses in your community close together or far apart? Is walking preferable or riding in an automobile? With concerns about Covid-19, walking outside and staying physically distanced works well, but you may choose to ask only families or close friends to ride together to cover their area in prayer in a more rural area.
- Divide your community up into streets or sections for each group to prayer walk or ride. You don’t want everyone going to the same place.
- Pick a date. Our association is encouraging churches to prayer walk their communities on April 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Plan to meet at the church on the day of your prayer walk for prayer, brief instructions and a prayer before the teams are sent out (30 minutes or less). Plan an hour for the Prayer Walk.
- Plan to return to the church for a brief follow up - sharing time.

## Instructions for Prayer Walking:

- Prayer Walking should be done in groups of two or three.
- Young children should prayer walk with their parents.
- Highways or busy streets should not be assigned unless sidewalks are available.
- Streets being Prayer Walked should be mapped out in advance to prevent streets from being

- walked twice.
- Prayer Walkers should try not to draw attention to themselves.
- Take time to enjoy the walk and be friendly to those you meet outside.
- If you have items to put on the door handles of the homes, leave them without knocking.
- If you encounter people in their yards, explain what you are doing and ask if they have any prayer requests of specific things you can pray for.

### **Instructions for Prayer Riding:**

It is easier for walkers to pray as they slowly walk along together, but it can be more challenging while driving. Everyone should keep their eyes open to see what God is showing them and may be leading them to pray for (especially the driver!). Sometimes it is possible to drive slowly, other times it is not. We do not want to be a hindrance or a safety hazard to others who are driving behind us. So, look for regular places to pull over, or pull off, to pray about the homes and families that you have just seen, but preferably, not the driveways of strangers.

### **Praying While Walking or Driving**

What should you pray for? What do you see? Do you see evidence of children? Does the person seem well off or poor? Do you know anything about the person who lives there that could inform your prayers for them? Make sure that you pray for the spiritual needs such as salvation, commitment to God, right relationship to the Father, etc. Next pray for any physical needs that you are either aware of or that God places on your heart.

### **Praying for Christians**

- Pray for believers to be renewed in the joy of God's salvation (Psalm 51:10-13).
- Pray for believers to live a Christ-like character before the world (John 17:11).
- Pray that Christians will experience the joy of Jesus in their lives (John 17: 13).
- Pray for divine protection from Satan (John 17:15).
- Pray that believers will live set apart and holy lives in Christ (John 17:17).
- Pray for Christians to be united in the mission and purpose of Christ (John 17: 20-21).
- Pray that believers will join Christ in His redemptive work (John 17: 24).

(Copied from "Prayer/empower Weekend Coordinator Leadership Guide, p. 9)

### **Praying for the Lost**

- Pray for receptive hearts (Luke 8:5-15).
- Pray for their eyes and ears to be opened (Matt. 13:15; 2 Cor. 4:3-4).
- Pray for unbelievers to have and understand God's attitude toward sin (John 16:8).
- Pray for the lost to be released from barriers and strongholds that hinder faith (2 Tim. 2:25-26).
- Pray for unbelievers to experience a transforming life in Christ (Rom. 12:1-2).
- Pray for Christian witnesses to be sent to share Christ with the lost (Matt. 9:35-38).

(Copied from "Prayer/empower Weekend Coordinator Leadership Guide, p. 9)

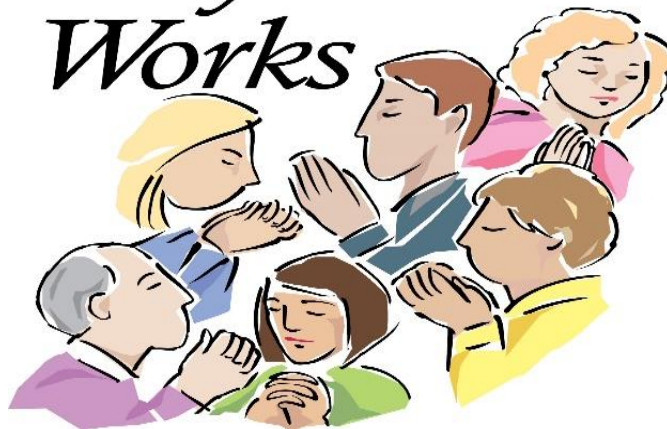
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**April 1 – 30, 2022**



**“Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men”  
(1 Timothy 2:1).**

*Prayer  
Works*



**Join our sister churches in praying for our great county during the month of April!  
Prayer helps to open the doors of the power of God to make a wonderful  
difference in lives of our family, friends and co-workers! Let's pray!**



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# Pray Anson



# Prayer Walk

**Date**

**Time**

**“Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men”  
(1 Timothy 2:1). Let’s cover Anson County in prayer!**